

- INSIDE THIS ISSUE PG. 2 Meeting Information
- PG. 3 ABWA Anniversary
- PG. 4 Secretary's Report
- PG. 5 Raintree Birthdays
- PG. 6 Women's History Month
- PG. 7 New Member Equal Pay Day
- PG. 8 Save the Date

ABWA Anniversary

PG. 11 Sponsors

ABWA's Mission Statement

The mission of the American Business Women's Association is to bring together businesswomen of diverse occupation and to provide opportunities for them to help themselves and others grow personally and professionally through leadership, education, networking support and national recognition.

MARCH 2021 | Vol. 57 Issue 08

RAINTREE RAMBLER

Published by Raintree Chapter New Castle, IN

A League of the American Business Women's Association



MBLER e Chapter merican Association KAREN'S KORNER

Raintree President Karen Johnson

Hello Raintree Members,

I am so happy that we are having an in-person meeting this month at the New Castle Chamber of Commerce and will be able to see and catch-up with those

members coming in person (don't forget your mask). For those of you who still need to stay home, we understand.

We had a great speaker last month in Regina Hall, and I am looking forward to our March speaker - Marilyn Lash (former DV DVP and member of the EMC Council in Michigan) talking on what becoming a Top Ten has meant to her.

We pushed again for this "in person" meeting (Mother Nature didn't help us last month) so we can stay on schedule for our 2021 Woman of the Year (Chair Elaine Study), Nominating Committee to be voted on, 2021 Anniversary Committee (Chair Dawn Pokorny/May), and our Associate Night in June (Chair Janet Johnson).

I encourage our Chairs to start working with your committee members and come up with some plans. As you know, *"time flies!"* We are already in a time frame where we will need to push the Women's Symposium into the next chapter year.

By the time you receive this newsletter, the Central Regional Spring Conference will be history for 2021 (March 5-6). While I'm not a "lover" of zoom meetings, the Spring Conference was awesome. Lots of recognition and super presentations from our keynote and other speakers. I will be talking to the members that participated, and we'll do some write-ups in next month's newsletter to share some

Continued page 3

MARCH 2021 | Vol. 57 Issue 08

"Reimaging the Future as a 2021 Top Ten



KEYNOTE: Marilyn Lash, ABWA 2021 Top Ten

Thursday, MARCH 18th New Castle Henry County Chamber of Commerce – Conference Room 110 S Main St., New Castle IN 47362

In Person Registration and Dinner	5:45-6:30 PM
Zoom Registration	6:15 PM
Networking & Introductions	6:30 PM
Program	6:45 PM
Business Meeting	7:30 PM

The mission of the American Business Women's Association is to bring together businesswomen of diverse occupations and to provide opportunities for them to help themselves and others grow personally and professionally through leadership, education, networking support, and national recognition.

Changing Women's Lives... One Woman at a Time.

For more information about Raintree Chapter, contact President Karen Johnson at <u>ksj848@aol.com</u> or visit our website at http://www.abwa-raintree.com

RAINTREE CHAPTER



Ever think about taking a new leadership journey? Have you ever wondered what it would be like to step into a new leadership role with your employer or another professional organization? That's just what Marilyn did, and is doing. Plan now to join Marilyn as she walks us through her experiences as she reimagines her future leadership role in ABWA and beyond.

Marilyn is a 2021 Top Ten Woman of ABWA, an ABWA Ambassador, the past National District V Vice President of ABWA and is Vice President of Talent at Accent Entertainment, LLC. Marilyn also serves as the state representative for the State of Michigan Council Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America – Oakland County, Confirmation Mentor for St. Trinity Lutheran Church and as Chapter Representative of the Clarkston Chamber of Commerce on behalf of the ABWA-Greater Oakland Charter Chapter (GOCC).

Event cost is \$15 for members and non-members cost includes dinner). Zoom & noneating attendees cost \$5.00. Please RSVP by Sunday, March 14th by phone, text or email to guarantee your reservation to Shirley New 765-620-8271 wcsanew@hrtc.net.

Karen's Korner (cont. from page 1)

of the things we learned.

It's not to early for you to start thinking about the 2021 National Women's Leadership Conference. It's still up in the air whether it will be a personto-person conference, or perhaps a hybrid. In the meantime, you need to be thinking if you might want to travel to Colorado (we'll hopefully learn the date very soon.) The next Achieve edition should be out this week, followed by a Just in Time Webinar on March 11th.

I know this is repetitive, but it is very important that we start thinking about some themes for some baskets for the Silent Auctions at:

•the DVP Event in Michi-

gan which will celebrate our own Cheryl Blair's term as the District V DVP is July 16-17. (NOTE: I had the wrong date in last month, so if you put it in your calendar, please make the change.) •the Cardinal Crossroads Council's Annual Summer Sizzler, August 27-28 in Anderson

●and, we will again team up with Forks of the Wabash and Women of Magnitude for Make, Bake, or Buy on November 6th in Fort Wayne.

The chapter plans to help our members going to NWLC (National Women's Leadership Conference) this year...and, depending on how many want to travel there, we may need more funds than we have been able to profit thus far this year. If you have any fundraising ideas, please contact Mary Cordle, or a Chapter Officer.

WE NEED YOUR HELP . . . WE NEED MORE MEM-BERS TO BE ABLE TO **BE HONORED FOR BEST PRACTICES (we** have had Best Practices Striving, but until we get our numbers up we do not qualify for BEST PRAC-TICE I, II, OR III. don't forget to ask your friends, co-workers, etc. if they might be interested in coming to a meeting don't say they wouldn't be interested...LET THEM MAKE THAT DECISION.

Looking forward to seeing all of you on March 18th.

ABWA HUGS, KAREN



MARCH ABWA ANNIVERSARY

Renae Gawith 4 years

Nancy Brown 4 years

Peggy Miller 37 years

Pauline Hasty 43 years

MARCH 2021 | Vol. 57 Issue 08

RAINTREE RAMBLER MARCH 2021 Raintree February Chapter Meeting



The February meeting of the Raintree Chapter of the American Business Woman's Association was held via Zoom on February 18, 2021. President Karen Johnson opened the meeting at 6:30 pm. The Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance were led by Elaine Study and the Mission Statement was led by Janet Johnson.

Vice President Renae Gawith presented an engaging networking activity. Participants were to pick, then answer, one of 16 questions which described something about themselves. Attendees included members Mary Cordle, Sharon Woodruff, Mayra Phipps, Cheryl Blair, Karen Johnson, Kathy Woodward, Jessica Malson, Shirley New, Elaine Study, Rose Elliott, Janet Johnson, Wendy Wilker, Peggy Miller and Renae Gawith. Rose's guest Donna Collins and speaker Regina Hall also participated.

Shirley New introduced **speaker** Regina Hall, member of Michigan's ABWA Novi Oaks Charter Chapter. Regina is a Licensed Professional Counselor, LPC, ordained Minister and Author. Regina is the founder of Enlighten Heart Services and Sisters Journaling Together (SJT), as well as being a John Maxwell Certified Trainer. Today's topic was Self Care: Thoughts Matter. Using Google Docs, Regina gave everyone the written opportunity to share how we define self-care, why self-care matters, and ways we don't self-care.

Regina shared that 95% of our thoughts are repetitive—we thought them yesterday. She then explained various ways of distorted thinking—ways our mind convinces us things are not true. People often get stuck in a Submitted by Elaine Study Raintree Secretary



negative way and it's hard to flip to positive. Regina's closing thought was, "You're worthy of more love than you give yourself!" We can stay in touch with Regina's work at https://reginachall.com/.

BUSINESS: Karen installed **new member Kathy Woodward**. Renae Gawith is Kathy's sponsor. Kathy lives in New Castle and is a retired nurse.

Elaine Study's Secretary's Report will be saved for history. Janet Johnson's Treasurer's Report will be filed for audit.

Shirley New reported the first regional conference she just attended discussed voting changes at the league level. The changes will be effective March 9 when more information will be presented to all members.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Several **Fundraising** ideas were mentioned including a virtual chocolate tasting event where the company supplies all materials and selling Texas Roadhouse gift cards and frozen rolls. Chair Mary Cordle will investigate further.

(Cont. on page 5)

RAINTREE RAMBLER Raintree January Chapter Meeting (cont. from pg. 4).

Best Practices Chair Peggy Miller reports gathering items for the Best Practices submission is in process. She will be emailing members who will need to send her vital information.

Membership Contest Chair Shirley New announced today's extra points will be given to anyone who responded to today's speaker verbally during her discussion. She will also be getting with members to verify past month's points.

Karen stressed to everyone the need for each of us to look for sale items to purchase to use for gift baskets for the upcoming DVP Luncheon, Summer Sizzler and Make, Bake and Buy events. Renae also reminded us that gift cards will also be needed for each of those events. We can mail the gift cards to Renae as they are purchased.

Cardinal Crossroads Council Chair Karen informed us the council needs chairs for Honor's Day in Oct. and for the Standing Rules and Nominating committees. Let Karen know if you are interested.

Attendees were then divided into 4 breakout rooms: Anniversary Committee, Associates Night Committee, Women's Symposium Committee and New Members. Topics were discussed, items brainstormed, and next steps were decided on.

Help us celebrate St. Patrick's Day and wear **GREEN** to the March 18th meeting!!

REMINDERS: Renae had a February birthday. There were no February Anniversaries. Central Regional Conference will be held virtually on March 5 & 6. The next Raintree meeting is March 18 with current Top 10 Nominee Marilyn Lash scheduled as speaker. Door prizes were won by Sharon, Jessica, and Wendy.

Karen led the benediction and adjourned the meeting at 8:10.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elaine Study, Secretary



RAINTREE BIRTHDAYS

Rose Elliott - March 23

Tarra Blair - April 9 Shirley New - April 18 Cheryl Blair - April 28

MARCH 2021 | Vol. 57 Issue 08



In honor of March, Women's History Month, the word cloud below was generated by attendees of the 2021 Central Regional Conference.

Name a woman whose contribution has shaped the world in which we live today.





Welcome to Raintree, Kathy Woodward!!



Kathy attended her first Raintree meeting in February where she was installed as our newest member. Retired nurse and massage therapist, Kathy has 2 grown children & 2

fantastic grandchildren.

Having a passion for animals and for the underdog, Kathy rescues dogs in

abused situations. She has recently joined the Y since she loves working out. You can also find her reading or traveling.

Kathy is very excited about being a part of ABWA. "Renae & I just clicked when I met her at her work. I sat down and we had a great conversation," Kathy shared. She joined ABWA because she is "all about lifting up women and supporting women." Sounds like she will be a great fit for our organization! WELCOME!!



Equal Pay Day is the symbolic day dedicated to raising awareness of the gender pay gap.

In the United States, this date symbolizes how far into the year the average women must work in order to earn what the average man earns in the previous year regardless of experience or job type.

The exact day differs year by year. In 2021, it is March 24.

Show your support and WEAR RED!



Mar. 18 Raintree Meeting Wear

Mar. 24 Equal Pay Day Wear Red

Apr. 15 Raintree Meeting

Apr. 21 DVP call

Apr. 24 Cardinal Crossroads Council

Jul. 16-17 DVP Event

Jul. 24 Cardinal Crossroads Council

Aug. 27-28 Summer Sizzler

Nov. 6 Make, Bake and Buy

MARCH 2021 | Vol. 57 Issue 08



APRIL ABWA ANNIVERSARY

Jessica Malson 7 years

Sharon Woodruff

34 years

Shirley New 30+ years



Women's History Month celebrating women making a difference



The Library of Congress, National Archives and Records Administration, National Endowment for the Humanities, National Gallery of Art, National Park Service, Smithsonian Institution and United States Holocaust Memorial Museum join in commemorating and encouraging the study, observance and celebration of the vital role of women in American history.

Women's History Month had its origins as a national celebration in 1981 when Congress passed Pub. L. 97-28 which authorized and requested the President to proclaim the week beginning March 7, 1982 as "Women's History Week." Throughout the next five years, Congress continued to pass joint resolutions designating a week in March as "Women's History Week." In 1987 after being petitioned by the National Women's History Project, Congress passed Pub. L. 100-9 which designated the month of March 1987 as "Women's History Month." Between 1988 and 1994, Congress passed additional resolutions requesting and authorizing the President to proclaim March of each year as Women's History Month. Since 1995, Presidents Clinton, Bush and Obama have issued a series of annual proclamations designating the month of March as "Women's History Month."

www.womenshistorymonth.gov



MARCH 2021 | Vol. 57 Issue 08

RAINTREE RAMBLER Gift Cards, Please!!

Every year the current District Vice President is honored at a special district event in Michigan, the **DVP Luncheon**. This year our current **DVP Cheryl Blair, Raintree Chapter**, will be the guest of honor July 9 and 10.

Planning is underway for an in-person event where we will have silent auctions of baskets. Just in case it needs to be virtual, the committee decided to have envelope pulls that consists of at least \$10 worth of gift cards per envelope.

Renae Gawith is asking for everyone to start collecting gift cards. (Make sure they can be used in Michigan, too!) Bring them to the next meetings or mail them to Renae Gawith, 9425 S. Co. Rd. 300 W.; Muncie In 47302.

What happens if the DVP Luncheon ends up being in-person and we don't need gift cards, you ask??? No Problem! We will use those gift cards for Summer Sizzler in August and Make, Bake and Buy in November.



Baskets will be needed at all 3 events, so put on your thinking caps and let's decide at the March meeting what type of basket themes we can start buying for!

March 1 to May 31 Spring Membership Campaign



MARCH 2021 | Vol. 57 Issue 08

an Independently Owned and Operated Broker Member of BHHS

OUR BUSINESS CARD SPONSORS - (support them when you can)



RAINTREE RAMBLER COMMITTEE CHAIRS

ANNIVERSARY-Dawn Pokorny ASSOCIATES NIGHT-Janet Johnson BEST PRACTICES-Peggy Miller FUNDRAISING-Mary Cordle MEMBERSHIP-Shirley New NEWSLETTER-Elaine Study, Renae Gawith NOMINATING– Vote in March NOTIFICATIONS-Pauline Hasty

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & EDUCATION – Shirley New PUBLICITY-Renae Gawith TOP TEN-Cheryl Blair WEBSITE-Wendy Wilker WOMAN OF THE YEAR-Elaine Study WOMEN'S SYMPOSIUM-Marilyn Upchurch CARDINAL CROSSROADS COUNCIL RAINTREE DELEGATE-Renae Gawith RAINTREE ALTERNATES– Jackie Brayton, Peggy Miller

MARCH 2021 | Vol. 57 Issue 08 ABWA Core Values

- 1. Giving Members a Voice
- 2. Treat People With Dignity
- 3. Lifelong Learning
- 4. Focus on Creating Value for Members
- 5. Achievement
- 6. Visionary Leadership
- 7. Focus on the Future
- 8. Focus on Results
- 9. Manage by Fact
- 10. Manage for Innovation



RAINTREE OFFICERS Vice President Renae Gawith; President Karen Johnson; Treasurer Janet Johnson; Secretary Elaine Study

RAINTREE VISION STATEMENT - 2020-21

Raintree Chapter offers opportunities to support our members and the women of our community by helping them grow personally and professionally through leadership, networking, education, recognition, and community enrichment.



ABWA's Proud Code of Conduct

•All members will serve as goodwill ambassadors for the American Business Women's Association.

•Members will not allow their personal beliefs and convictions to interfere with the representation of ABWA's mission.

•Members will always treat their member colleagues, guests, vendors and sponsors with honesty, respect, fairness, integrity, responsibility, kindness, and in good faith.

•Members will maintain compliance with ABWA National, Chapter and Express Network Bylaws.

•Members will not use their personal power to advance their personal interests.

•Members will strive for excellence in their professions by maintaining and enhancing their own business knowledge and skills, and by encouraging the professional development of other members.

Karen Johnson Raintree Chapter President

Newsletter Editors Elaine Study 765-969-8602 studyelaine@yahoo.com Renae Gawith 765-615-7252 renaegawith@gmail.com



Raintree Chapter

Visit us online at http://abwa-raintree.com

Like us on Facebook at: ABWA – Raintree Chapter